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U.S. WARNS U.N. FOSTERS TERRORISM  
BY J.T. NGUYEN  
NEW YORK

A U.S. official warned Americans Friday against ignoring the United Nations because it is "fertile ground" for terrorists seeking ideological encouragement for their violence.

The warning came during a news conference held by current and former U.S. officials who have dealt with terrorism in and outside the United States.

The panel of experts said terrorists in the United States only strike targets that attract media attention, like the CitiCorp building in New York and the Washington Monument.

"We can ignore the United Nations only at our own peril," Allan Gerson, a special assistant to U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, said. "Very often at the United Nations, it is a continuation of war by other means.

"Certainly terrorists find fertile ground in the United Nations for achieving a climate of international public opinion which, at the very least, does not hamper their activities, but very often act as a source of encouragement," he said.

He said the U.N. General Assembly in 1982 adopted a resolution demanding the immediate release of Ziyad Abu Ein after the United States extradited him to Israel, where he had been sought for a bombing attack in which two Israeli children were killed.

Abu Ein is detained at Insar Camp in Israel. Another draft resolution is expected to be adopted by the assembly this month demanding Abu Ein's release.

Gerson said there is a "great divergence" of opinion between the United States and the Soviet Union in the United Nations.

Moscow allowed for "exceptions in the use of force wherever so-called national liberation movements are involved," he said. "It is a concept that not only encourages an attitude of tolerance toward terrorism but one that is clearly inconsistent with the principle of the U.N. Charter."

New York's FBI deputy assistant director Kenneth Walton said terrorist groups such as the Weather Underground and the Puerto Rican liberation group FALN

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